

Docket No. HRT0287

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICERECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

Applicants : John H. Stevens
Serial No. : 10/047,581 Art Unit: 3738
Filed : October 23, 2001 Examiner: D. Isabella
Title : Devices and Methods for Port-Access Multivessel Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery

SEP 20 2004

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being faxed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on September 20, 2004, to telephone number 703 872-9306.

Signed
Dated: September 20, 2004

BST
Brian S. Tomko

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Mail Stop Petition
Alexandria, VA 22313

PETITION TO ACCEPT
AN UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Dear Sir:

This is a Petition to correct an unintentionally delayed claim of priority in the above pending application. Applicant's representative received a Office Action dated March 19, 2004, and while preparing to respond to the Office Action, noted an error in the priority claim.

Applicant hereby petitions the Commissioner under 37 C.F.R. §1.78(a)(3) to claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of earlier filed applications in the United States. The claim of priority is as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/615,481 filed on March 25, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,338,735, which is division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/206,419, filed March 4, 1994, now U.S. Patent No. 5,545,214, which is a division of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/730,559, filed on July 16, 1991, now U.S. Patent No. 5,370,685.

Adjustment date: 03/15/2005 THARGROV
15/01/2003 SLURANGI 00000050 100750 10047581

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PAGE 28 * RCV'D AT 9/20/2004 3:36:46 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-15 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:7325245575 * DURATION (mm:ss):02:20 CR